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Commissioning Service Set For Rev. Colvin, Missionary To Japan

The Rev. James Colvin, a Reidsville native, has recently been appointed to serve as a missionary to Japan and will be commissioned Sunday night, January 18 at 7:30 at the East Side Baptist Church.

Colvin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Colvin of Mangum Street, attended East Side Church as he grew up. He graduated from Reidsville Senior High School, Mars Hill College, and the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest.

From 1966 to 1968, Colvin served as a missionary journeyman to Kenya.

In June of 1975 the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention appointed Colvin and his wife, the former Martha Mooney, of Richmond, Virginia, to the missionary work in Japan.

The couple, with their two



REV. JAMES COLVIN

children—Christopher, 2, and Martha Elizabeth, 10 months—will leave in February to attend language school in Japan.

The public is cordially invited to attend the commissioning ceremony at the church on Barnes Street Extension.

*Jan. 16, 1976
Reidsville Review*

City Native Invited To Enter Baptist Training

James R. Colvin, native of Reidsville, has been invited to enter training as a Southern Baptist missionary journeyman. After an eight-week training period, beginning June 18, he expects to spend two years doing youth work in Nairobi, Kenya.

He is among 49 young men and women approved by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board on April 133 for journeyman service, contingent upon their completion of training. Journeymen are single college graduates with talents and training needed for specific jobs in overseas mission work.

A senior in Mars Hill College, Jim is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Colvin, Jr., of 613 Mangum St., Reidsville. Born and reared in Reidsville, he graduated from Reidsville Senior High School in 1962. Each summer since then he has done construction work for his family's firm.

A ministerial student, he expects to serve as a pastor in the United States when he finishes his education. "As present I foresee no call to lifetime mission work," he says. "But I am deeply interested in missions and want to help."

Before entering Mars Hill College (where he is majoring in religion) he attended North Carolina State University at Raleigh for a year, planning to become an engineer. He changed schools after he decided God was guiding him into the ministry.

Journeyman training this summer will be held on the campus of Virginia Interment College, Bristol. Curriculum will include

Christian doctrine, Bible, missions, evangelism, area studies and world affairs, language study, training for special skills, health and personal development, and physical education.

The Foreign Mission Board's Missionary Journeyman Program is designed for young men and women who have dedicated their talents and vocations to Christ and want to serve overseas for two years, though at this point they are not committed to career missionary service. Under the direction and supervision of career missionaries, they share their Christian faith and perform specific jobs, thus freeing the missionaries for other responsibilities. The first 46 journeymen were sent out last year.

The new journeyman trainees bring the overseas staff of the Foreign Mission Board to more than 2,100.

Raleigh Times
Reidsville Review
Rockingham: Richmond Co. Journal

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**Colson, John Virgil**

b. Folkston, Ga., Mar. 22, 1919. ed. Berry College; Mercer Univ., A.B., 1947; SWBTS, B.D., 1950; Southern Methodist Univ.; School of Pastoral Care, N.C. Bapt. Hosp. Serviceman, U.S. Air Force, 1942-45; Bible tchr., Dallas, Tex., 1949-53; pastor, Berryhill Church, Charlotte, N.C., 1954-64; Pall View Church, Kaneohe, Hawaii, 1964-73; Mission Village Church, San Diego, Calif., 1973-78. Employed as missionary associate, 1978; school chaplain and sec. tchr., Monrovia, LIBERIA, 1978—. m. Grace Bishop.

LIBERIA**Colson, Elizabeth Grace Bishop (Mrs. J. Virgil)**

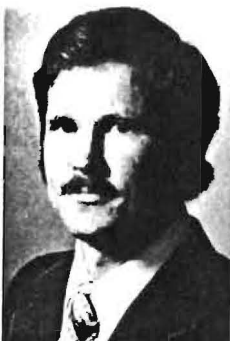
b. Clinton, Miss., June 10, 1921. ed. Blue Mountain College, B.A., 1942; SWBTS, M.R.E., 1949; Univ. of Hawaii; San Diego State Univ. High school tchr., Vernon, Ala., 1942-43; church sec., Bessemer and Tuscaloosa, Ala., 1943-47; employee, SWBTS, 1949-50; sec., Dallas, Tex., 1950-53; high school tchr., Kaneohe, Hawaii, 1964-73; Imperial Beach, Calif., 1975-78; tchr., Grossmont College, 1976-77 (part-time). Employed as missionary associate, 1978; sec. tchr., Monrovia, LIBERIA, 1978—. m. Virgil Colson, July 22, 1949. Children: Charles Bishop, 1954; John Phillip, 1956; Carey Virgil, 1960.

**Colston, Billy Gene**

b. Kosciusko, Miss., May 31, 1936. ed. Florence State Univ., Howard College (now Samford Univ.), B.A., 1959; NOBTS, B.D., 1962 (exchanged for M.Div., 1975). Pastor, Philadelphia and Pleasant Hill churches, Fayette, Ala., 1955-56; Mayberry Church, Montevallo, Ala., 1956-57; Southside Church, Fayette, 1957-59; Ford's Creek Church, Poplarville, Miss., 1960-62; Eastwood Church, Bay Minette, Ala., 1962-63; Leighton (Ala.) Church, 1963-68. Appointed 1967; lang. student, Seoul, KOREA, 1968-70; gen. evang., 1970—. m. "Gerry" Rutland.

KOREA**Colston, Geraldine Leneva Rutland (Mrs. Billy G.)**

b. New Orleans, La., Aug. 19, 1939. ed. Howard College (now Samford Univ.); Florence State Univ. Clerk-typist, New Orleans, 1959-61; nursery school wkr., NOBTS, 1961-62. Appointed 1967; lang. student, Seoul, KOREA, 1968-70; church and home evang., 1970—. m. Billy Colston, Aug. 9, 1957. Children: Robyn Denise, 1958; Lydia Anne, 1963.

**Colvin, James Robert**

b. Reldsville, N.C., Apr. 11, 1944. ed. N.C. State Univ.; Mars Hill College, B.A., 1966; SEBTS, M.Div., 1972. Missionary journeyman, KENYA, 1966-68; pastor, Jordan's Chapel Church, Mount Olive, N.C., 1969-72 (part-time); Newton Grove (N.C.) Church, 1969-72 (part-time); chaplain intern, N.C. Mem. Hosp., Chapel Hill, N.C., 1972; min. to youth, Madison Ave. Church, Goldsboro, N.C., 1972-75. Appointed 1975; gen. evang., Tokyo, JAPAN, 1976-77; Kyoto, 1977—. m. Martha Mooney.

JAPAN**Colvin, Martha Ellen Mooney (Mrs. James R.)**

b. Richmond, Va., Aug. 25, 1947. ed. Med. College of Va., Va. Commonwealth Univ., B.S. in Nursing, 1969 (R.N. by state exam). Nurse, U.S. Army, 1969-71; hosp. nurse, Dunn, N.C., 1972 (part-time); Chapel Hill, N.C., 1972; private duty nurse, Goldsboro, N.C., 1973; health coord., Project Head Start, 1973-74; hosp. nurse, Kinston, N.C., 1974-75 (part-time). Appointed 1975; church and home evang., Tokyo, JAPAN, 1976-77; Kyoto, 1977—. m. James Colvin, Dec. 18, 1971. Children: Christopher James, 1973; Martha Elizabeth, 1975.

**Compher, Robert Reid**

b. Garrett Park, Md., Oct. 29, 1931. ed. Bridgewater College; Howard College (now Samford Univ.), B.A., 1958; MWBTS, B.D., 1961; SEBTS. Serviceman, U.S. Army, 1953-55; church visitor, Ruhama Church, Birmingham, Ala., 1958; rec. dir., Kan. City, Mo., 1959 (summer); grader, MWBTS, 1959-61; pastor, Lebanon Church, Hemple, Mo., 1959-61; teaching fellow, SEBTS, 1961-62; pastor, Winn's Creek Church, Halifax, Va., 1962-64. Appointed 1963; lang. student, Dalat, VIETNAM, 1964-65; gen. evang., Nhatrang, 1966-68; Quinhon, 1969-75; Manila, PHILIPPINES, 1975—. m. Priscilla Weeks.

PHILIPPINES**Compher, Priscilla Anne Weeks (Mrs. Robert R.)**

b. Ozark, Ala., Feb. 15, 1936. ed. Howard College (now Samford Univ.) B.A., 1958; MWBTS. Stenographer, Birmingham, Ala., 1954-55. Sec. Howard College, 1955-57; church sec., Birmingham, 1958; schoolteacher Kan. City, Kan., 1958-59; high school tchr., N. Kan. City, Mo., 1959-60. Appointed 1963; lang. student, Dalat, VIETNAM, 1964-65; gen. evang., Nhatrang, 1966-68; Quinhon, 1969-75; Manila, PHILIPPINES, 1975—. m. Robert Reid Compher, Dec. 18, 1971. Children: Christopher James, 1973; Martha Elizabeth, 1975.

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291 Their Mission

Baptist Couple Ready To Go Back to Japan

By VIRTIE STROUP
Sentinel Religion Reporter

James and Martha Colvin think their year of study at Baptist Hospital will help them be better Southern Baptist missionaries when they return to Japan.

They feel they are now better marriage partners, better parents and better Christians.

And as a result, they have a new perspective on how missionaries should approach their work.

Colvin, an ordained minister, completes his internship at the School of Pastoral Care at Baptist Hospital next week. Mrs. Colvin attended clinical pastoral education classes in the spring and has taken other courses available at the hospital.

The couple will speak twice on Sunday at Ardmore Baptist

served two years in the Army, one year of them in Vietnam.)

But after his marriage, two children and two pastorates, he was ready to tackle missionary work. And, he learned, his wife had always wanted to be a missionary.

They were the first couple the Baptists commissioned to go to Madagascar, but at the end of their training, they found they could not get visas for that country. They had to decide whether to wait, hoping the country would lift that ban, or take a new assignment.

She wanted to go to the Orient, but he was not sure. Eighteen days after they asked for an appointment to Japan, they were en route to Kyoto Baptist Hospital, which had been waiting five years to get a



Photo Special to The Sentinel
Martha and James Colvin will be leaving for Japan later this month.

has started a new ministry, working with the operating room personnel and helping them deal with the daily stress of their work and other problems they might have.

In this role, he said, he is a pastor, and he has found the work somewhat like the world — or a church — in miniature. He said his main role is to be

his role he tried to help the people look at their situations and find answers for themselves.

"I learned I can be the kind of person who is assertive enough to seek out people and address the problems." He's also found out that he can remain calm enough in stressful situations to bring some

greatest gain has been in the area of communication with each other, their children and people in general. "We have begun to pay more attention to what we say to each other and the children," they said.

They have learned "to take a critical look" at themselves.

Formerly, they thought they had to be "everything to

year in the church's missionary home.

The family will return to Kyoto, Japan, where they served most of their first three-year term abroad, later this month.

Colvin, a native of Reidsville, is a graduate of Mars Hill College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Before he went to seminary, he was a Southern Baptist journeyman, or two-year missionary, to Kenya. He wanted to go "for the adventure of it, to test myself against a different culture, . . . and to try out some of the things I had learned in college."

He admits a lot of things in Kenya were adventuresome and exciting, and he learned the way to introduce Jesus to the people was by being a friend and being trustworthy.

He had not considered mission work as a career, but after returning from Kenya "I found out that a whole lot more of me was invested in missions than I realized."

So he signed up with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board for service when he completed seminary. He told the personnel board, however, that he would not go out by himself. (At that time, he had not met his wife, a Richmond, Va., native and nurse who

"Basically I am a country boy and to be plopped down amidst 14 million people" was unsettling. The cost of living is high there and the language is difficult, he said.

One of the first things they learned in Japan was that less than 1 percent of the population is Christian and that Christianity only dated to the post World War II period.

Much of their first term was spent learning the country and language. Mrs. Calvin had many things clear in her mind that she wanted to do: teach English, work as a nurse — give her testimony in every way, even through cooking classes in her home.

"This time (when she goes back), I want to be an example of what a Christian wife and mother is like," she said. They live in an all-Japanese community and she feels trying to live an exemplary life is the better way to make a Christian witness.

"The Japanese don't want you to Americanize them," she said, "and they ask you to show them and tell them about your Lord; live among us."

She said she will continue volunteer work in the hospital nursery and work with the English-speaking people, but mainly her role will be in the home, setting an example.

In his last days here, Colvin

the stresses they have.

His successor in this work will be the Rev. Phil Motley, former associate minister of Wake Forest Baptist Church, who is starting the internship program.

Colvin said he has learned from the operating room experience that people "need community in their work as well as their lives." He said in

the years that he has had the same kind of ability that "makes me feel at home" in his work in Japan.

It has been a stressful year for the Colvins with commitments, financial obligations and involvement away from the home.

"It made us come to a point," he said, "of evaluating what we had learned." Their

strengths and accepting them.

"As a minister," Colvin said, "I had gotten in the trap of trying to be husband, father and pastor at the same time and I realized I couldn't be them all at once and I didn't have to be."

In four years the Colvins hope to return to Winston-Salem for more study.